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Exclusive of bowel trouble among children, I found only 3 cases of sickness in my rounds, including 1 case of intermittent and 1 of continued fever. The malarial cases have been put under mosquito bars.

Inspection of Brownsville—Sanitary conditions.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Lowry reports, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

LAREDO, TEX., *July 19, 1904.*

I proceeded on the morning of July 9 to Brownsville, Tex., arriving there on the evening of July 11.

On the following morning I made a house-to-house inspection of the Mexican quarter of the town, discovering 5 cases of sickness—1 of typhoid fever, 1 of traumatism, and 3 of measles.

An examination of the burying ground showed 9 newly-made graves, which number coincides with the number of deaths recorded in the city clerk's office for month of July up to date of investigation.

The physicians of Brownsville, Drs. J. F. Combes, J. Combes, W. Layton, Saunders, and Koyle of the United States Army, stated positively that they had no knowledge of the existence of any yellow fever in Brownsville, and willingly showed all cases of fever under their charge, which were chiefly typhoid fever and measles. Both of these diseases have been epidemic in Brownsville for the past four months. I examined, in company with attending physicians, altogether 24 cases.

The cause of death in cases which were reported as having died in the same house suddenly, was, according to statement of attending physicians, in one case senility, and in the other measles.

According to the city records the mortality for June was 41; in 13 cases, chiefly among young children, cause of death not given; 7 from tuberculosis, 6 from measles, 1 each from typhoid fever and malarial fever, the remainder, 13, from miscellaneous causes.

Matamoros, on the opposite side of the river, about 1 mile up the river from Brownsville, shows a mortality of 35, principally from typhoid fever and measles, during the month of June.

The sanitary conditions in Brownsville are bad in the extreme, and neither water nor sewerage system exists. All water used is either rain water (cisterns) or river water, which is handled and stored in barrels. Mosquitoes, both *stegomyia* and *culex*, are plentiful. Cess-pools are used for the disposal of filth in better class houses, while the poorer classes throw all refuse in the streets and alleys.

It is not my belief that yellow fever exists in Brownsville at the present time, but upon the completion of the Monterey-Matamoros branch of the National Mexico Railroad both the towns of Brownsville and Matamoros will be extremely liable to infection; and, on account of the laborers crossing to and from the farms along the river, an efficient quarantine will be very difficult.

I returned, leaving Brownsville the morning of July 14, reaching Laredo the evening of July 15.